"Governance Challenges in Education and Health in Developing Countries"

Seema Jayachandran is an associate professor of economics and the director of the Center for the Study of Development Economics at Northwestern University. Her research interests span a wide range of topics in development economics. Much of her recent work focuses on maternal and child health in Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. She has also made contributions related to political economy, labor markets and environmental conservation in developing countries.

Jayachandran earned a Ph.D. in economics from Harvard University, a master's in physics and philosophy from the University of Oxford, where she was a Marshall Scholar, and a bachelor's in electrical engineering from MIT. Prior to joining Northwestern, she was an assistant professor of economics at Stanford University and a Robert Wood Johnson Scholar in Health Policy Research at the University of California, Berkeley.

Jayachandran is an affiliate of the National Bureau of Economic Research, Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab, International Growth Centre and Innovations for Poverty Action. She previously worked as a management consultant with McKinsey & Company.

April 10, 2013

"Governance Challenges for Local Climate Adaptation and Poverty Alleviation"

Stephen C. Smith is director of the Institute for International Economic Policy at George Washington University (GWU), where he is professor of economics and international affairs. He received his Ph.D. in economics from Cornell University and has been a Fulbright Research Scholar and a Jean Monnet Research Fellow. In 2012, he was a Fulbright Senior Specialist at Kurukshetra University in India. Smith is the author of "Ending Global Poverty: A Guide to What Works" (paperback edition with author's afterword, Palgrave Macmillan, 2009). He is co-author with Michael Tator of a leading textbook, "Economic Development" (11th Ed., Addison-Wesley, and Pearson, 2011), and co-editor with Jennifer Brinkerhoff and Hidy Teegen of "NGOs and the Millennium Development Goals: Citizen Action to Reduce Poverty" (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007). Smith is co-author of some three dozen professional journal articles and many other publications. He serves as an associate editor of the Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization and serves on the Advisory Council of BRAC USA.

Smith organized and served as the first director of GWU's International Development Studies Program. He has done on-site research and program work in developing countries including Bangladesh, China, Ecuador, Egypt, India, Peru, Uganda, and the former Yugoslavia. Smith has been a consultant for the World Bank, the International Labour Organization (Geneva), the United Nations Development Programme, and the World Institute for Development Economics Research (Helsinki). In addition to development economics, Smith is regarded as a leading contributor to the scholarly literature on the economics of participation, including profit sharing, employee ownership, worker cooperatives, and work councils. Smith's recent research focused on understanding extreme poverty and the most effective strategies and programs to address it, and on the economics of adaptation to climate change in low-income countries, emphasizing autonomous adaptation by households and communities and its effects.

The Werner Sichel Lecture Series began in 1963, directed by long-time WMU Professor of Economics Dr. Werner Sichel, who retired in 2004. Since its beginning, the series has attracted eminent scholars from throughout the world, including 12 Nobel Laureates in Economics.

This year's Sichel Series is co-directed by Dr. Sisay Asefa and Dr. Wei-Chiao Huang and is co-sponsored by the Department of Economics, the College of Arts and Sciences, the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, the Center for African Development Policy Research, the Diether H. Haenicke Institute for Global Education, and the Timothy Light Center for Chinese Studies.

For more information

Please contact Dr. Asefa at
(269) 387-5556 or email sisay.asefa@wmich.edu
or Dr. Huang at
(269) 387-5528 or email huang@wmich.edu

The 2012-13 Werner Sichel Lecture Series features six nationally recognized scholars whose presentations will focus on the economics of good governance.

All lectures are held at
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2028 Brown Hall

Lunch Lecture (Brown Bag)
noon - 1:30 p.m.
Fall 2012: 2208 Dunbar Hall
Spring 2013: 3210 Dunbar Hall

Department of Economics
College of Arts and Sciences
5307 Friedmann Hall
Western Michigan University
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5330
www.wmich.edu/economics
(269) 387-5535
John Ishiyama, Ph.D.
University Distinguished Research Professor
of Political Science
University of North Texas
Lead Editor, American Political Science Review

October 17, 2012

"Political Parties and Democratization in Developing Countries"

John Ishiyama's research interests include Democratization and political parties in post-communist Russian, European and Eurasian and African (especially Ethiopian) politics, ethnic conflict and ethnic politics; and the scholarship of teaching and learning. He is the author or editor of six books: "Ethiopianism in the New Europe: Communal Successor Parties in Post-Communist Politics," "Communal Successor Parties in Central and Eastern Europe," "Assessment in Political Science: "Comparative Politics: Principles of Democracy and Democratization" and Twenty-First Century Political Science."

He is an author or co-author of over 120 journal articles published in professional journals such as American Political Science Review and others, and book chapters. In addition, he is a research fellow at the University of Kansas' Center for Russian and East European Studies and a member of the executive board of Pi Sigma Alpha (the national political science honorary society). Ishiyama is also on the executive council of the American Political Science Association and the Midwest Political Science Association, and is a member of the advisory board of the Minorities Risk Project.

Ishiyama received his Ph.D. from Michigan State University and received the Quincy Wright Distinguished Scholar Award from the International Studies Association in 2012. He was selected as the 2004 Missouri Professor of the Year by the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. He was named a 2003-04, National Carnegie Foundation Scholar, and received the 2003-04 Faculty Excellence, the 2003 Missouri Governor's Award for Excellence in Teaching, the 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2016 APSA/PSigma Alpha Awards for Teaching in Political Science, and the 1999 William O'Donnell Lee Award for academic advising.

Susan Collins, Ph.D.
Professor of Economics
Joan and Sanford Weill Dean
Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy
University of Michigan

November 14, 2012

"Governance and Economic Growth: Showing that Metrics Matter"

Before coming to Michigan, Susan M. Collins was a professor of economics at Georgetown University and a senior fellow with the Brookings Institution, where she retains a nonresident affiliation. Her area of expertise is international economics, including issues in both macroeconomics and trade. Her current work explores implications of increasing international economic integration, as well as growth experiences in industrial and developing countries.

She recently co-authored studies comparing experiences in China and India, and examined challenges to growth in Puerto Rico. She is a Research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research, and vice president of the Association for Professional Schools of International Affairs.

Collins recently served as an elected member of the American Economic Association (AEA) Executive Committee, having chaired the AEA Committee on the Status of Minority Groups from 1994-98. During 1989-90, she served as a senior staff economist on the President's Council of Economic Advisers. Collins received her bachelor's in economics, summa cum laude, from Harvard University and her Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Susan Linz, Ph.D.
Professor of Economics
Michigan State University

March 13, 2013

"Good Governance in Transition Economies: A Comparative Analysis"

Linz is the former editor of Comparative Economic Studies. She is currently on the board of directors of the National Council for Eurasian and East European Research and serves as treasurer of the Association for Slavic, Eurasian and East European Studies. She teaches courses on comparative economic systems, economic analysis of transition, and analysis of the Russian economy. She also spent two years consulting with U.S. and European organizations doing business in Russia.

Linz received her Ph.D. from the University of Illinois. Her current research focuses on factors influencing worker performance in formerly socialist economies, with special consideration for gender and generational differences. She has conducted employee surveys in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, and Serbia. Linz spent several years conducting in-depth interviews with top-level executives in over 260 firms across different regions in Russia.

Linz has publications that total more than 45 journal articles, three edited books, and 12 book chapters. She has participated in numerous training programs in Russia and the U.S. attended by business leaders, economists, and journalists.

Travel Directions
From I-94, take U.S. 131 north to Exit 36A (Stadium Dr). Travel east on Stadium Dr. to the fourth traffic light at Howard St. Turn left on Howard St. and take the second right to the WMU campus. Follow the signs to the Miller Auditorium parking ramp. Brown Hall is located to the east of the fountain between Miller Auditorium and Sprau Tower. Dunbar Hall is located just north of Sprau Tower.